

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 92-301-W - ORDER NO. 96-380 ✓
MAY 29, 1996

IN RE: Application of Heater Utilities, Inc. for) ORDER
Approval of an Increase in its Water Rates) RELEASING
and Charges for all its Water Service) APPEAL
Customers in all its Service Areas in) BOND
South Carolina.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the April 22, 1996 letter of Heater Utilities, Inc. (Heater or the Company). Pursuant to Order No. 96-42, Heater Utilities was required to refund or give bill credits for \$53,772 related to rates collected under bond during the appeal process in this Docket. These refunds have now been made, and Heater states that it is in need of a Commission order releasing the bond so that it may obtain a refund of prorated premiums which it had paid through the end of July 1996. Heater states that the bonding company is requiring it to provide an order releasing the bond.

It should be noted that the Commission Staff has reviewed the refund procedure for the Docket and the total amount of bill credits by Heater was \$54,446. The Staff states that the refund process has been carried out in accordance with Commission Order No. 96-42 and in fact, the Company has refunded slightly more than the required amount.

The Commission has examined Heater's request for Release of the Appeal Bond and finds that such request should be granted. It appears that all refunds have now been given, such that the purpose of the appeal bond is no longer needed. We therefore hold that the appeal bond may be released.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order by the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)